PATENT

REMARKS

Claims 1-16 and 22-26 are pending in the present application. Claims 17-21 were canceled

herein; claims 1-2, 6, 10 and 12-15 were amended; and claims 22-26 were added.

Claims 14 and 15 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but were

indicated to be allowable if rewritten in independent form to including all limitations of the base

claim and any intervening claims. Accordingly, claim 10 was amended to incorporate all limitations

of claim 14 and any intervening claim, thus effectively rewriting claim 14 in independent form. In

addition, claims 1 and 2 have been amended to incorporate all limitations of claim 14. Claim 2 has

been further amended to include limitations not found in claim 14. Dependent claims have been

amended for consistency with the amended independent claims, and additional dependent claims

have been added up to the number of claims for which fees have already been paid. Therefore, all

pending claims are believed to be allowable.

Allowance of the application is respectfully requested.

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If any issues arise, or if the Examiner has any suggestions for expediting allowance of this Application, the Applicant respectfully invites the Examiner to contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below or at dvenglarik@munckcarter.com.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees connected with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0208.

Respectfully submitted,

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